

VIETNAM COURIER

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Up to October 7, 1967:

**2,385 U.S. PLANES
DOWNED IN NORTH V.N.**

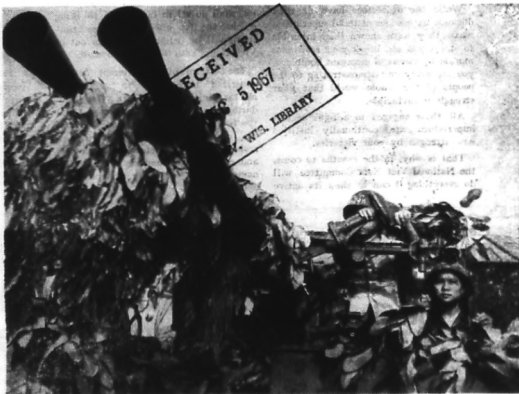
NORTH VIETNAM

U.S. AIR RAIDS DULY PUNISHED IN SEPTEMBER 1967

☆ **93 Planes Downed Including 31 in Hai Phong, 15 in Quang Binh, 2 B.52s in Vinh Linh, 12 by Viet Nam Air Force.**

HAI PHONG : An A.A. battery manned by young militia women of factory X, which has taken part in over fifty battles against U.S. planes.

QUANG TRI : With their "steel legs and iron shoulders" the L.A.F. gunners carry pick-a-back their artillery pieces up hill and down dale.



SOUTH VIETNAM

THE L.A.F. CONTINUE TO CARRY THE DAY



☆ **QUANG TRI :** 960 Enemy Troops Wiped Out, 7 Tanks Destroyed at Con Tien and Gio Linh (Sept. 22-25).

☆ **QUANG NAM :** 10 Enemy Positions Attacked, 530 Soldiers Put out of Action (Nights of Sept. 9 and 10).

☆ **CU CHI :** 320 G.I.s Knocked Out, 15 Armoured Cars Destroyed, 20 Planes and Helicopters Downed, Destroyed or Damaged (Sept. 17-20).

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QUANG TRI:

L.A.F. BIG VICTORIES AT CON TIEN AND GIO LINH

ACCORDING to *Giai Phong* Press Agency, from Sept. 22 to 25, the L.A.F. launched repeated attacks against Con Tien and east of Gio Linh. On Sept. 22, they shelled a position of U.S. Marines north of Trung Au, 1.5 km south of Con Tien, killing 150 men.

On Sept. 23, another pounding at Con Tien and Trung Au took a toll of 120 G.I.s.

On Sept. 24, a fleeing American unit intercepted by the L.A.F. at 4 km south-south-east of Con Tien, suffered 70 casualties. In a L.A.F. shelling at a position 2 km south-east of Con Tien, the U.S. Marines had 20 men killed or wounded and many military vehicles destroyed.

Meanwhile, the enemy troops at Gio Linh tried to get out of the L.A.F. investment by launching an operation to occupy a narrow strip of land advantageous to them lying between the sea and Highway 1.

On Sept. 22, Battalion 2, U.S. Marines Regiment 3, made a thrust to Nhi Thuong and Ha Loi, east and north-east of Gio Linh, near the seacoast, but had 50 men killed and wounded and 5 tanks destroyed by a well co-ordinated action between the three kinds of the Liberation Armed Forces.

On Sept. 23, at the same localities and at Nhi Ha, south of Gio Linh, mortars of the regional troops and cannons of the regular army pounded the enemy who had been reinforced by one puppet para battalion, thus creating favourable conditions for the footmen to kill and wound 60 enemy soldiers. G.I.s included.

After these two defeats, on Sept. 24, the enemy concentrated their operation on Nhi Trung and Nhi Thuong but suffered 150 casualties.

In total, from Sept. 22 to 25, the L.A.F. killed or wounded 960 U.S. and puppet troops, destroyed 6 tanks and many other military vehicles, and seized one tank.

QUANG NAM:

10 ENEMY POSITIONS STORMED, 530 ENEMY TROOPS PUT OUT OF ACTION ON THE NIGHTS OF SEPTEMBER 9 AND 10

GIAI PHONG Press Agency reported that, on the nights of Sept. 9 and 10, the L.A.F. shelled and stormed to enemy positions, military sectors and sub-

sectors (including the Hoi An sector, Hieu Nhon sub-sector, Nam Phuoc district town, the posts of Cam Son, Bong Lai and Ba Ren).

The hardest hit were the Hieu Nhon sector and Nam Phuoc district town in which 2 companies and 6 platoons were completely wiped out, 50 civilians detained by the enemy were set free.

In these two nights, the L.A.F. put out of action 530 enemy troops, including 2 companies and 8 platoons, and seized a great quantity of weapons and military equipment.

CU CHI:

320 G.I.s PUT OUT OF ACTION, 15 ARMOURD CARS DESTROYED, 20 AIRCRAFT DOWNED, DESTROYED OR DAMAGED (SEPTEMBER 17-20)

ACCORDING to *Giai Phong* Press Agency, on Sept. 17, 3 battalions of U.S. Infantry Division 25, supported by 120 planes and helicopters and 300 military vehicles, raided two villages north of Cu Chi district, but were intercepted by the guerrillas and local troops. On that night (Sept. 17), the Ranger training centre at Trung Hoa was stormed, the position of a U.S. infantry battalion and many logistic centres were heavily pounded, 120 G.I.s killed or wounded, 4 choppers and 2 armoured cars destroyed, 2050mm cannons damaged, many tents and trucks loaded with ammunition and military equipment set ablaze.

On Sept. 18, 19 and 20, using various forms of fighting, the guerrillas killed or wounded 300 G.I.s, destroyed 13 armoured carriers and shot down or damaged 16 aircraft.

BINH THUAN:

130 ENEMY SOLDIERS PUT OUT OF ACTION AT PHAN THIEP, PHAN RI AND HAM THUAN

GIAI PHONG Press Agency reported that, on Aug. 27, 30 and 31 the L.A.F. shelled the enemy positions at Phan Thiep provincial town and Phan Ri district town, wiping out 60 men. The following week, the guerrillas and local troops of Ham Thuan district put out of action 70 security men, "civil guards" and "pacification cadres".

U.S. LOSSES IN MY THO, VINH LONG, QUANG TRI, AND THUA THIEN FROM THE END OF AUGUST TO MID-SEPTEMBER

ACCORDING to an overall report of *Giai Phong* Press Agency:



Between Aug. 31 and Sept. 10, 1967, the L.A.F. put out of action 2,000 G.I.s and puppet troops, destroyed 45 armoured cars and 10 military vehicles, burnt or sank 28 war vessels, downed 8 aircraft and destroyed 40 "strategic hamlets" along Highway 4. My Tho province.

In Vinh Long province, between Aug. 25 and Sept.

10, the enemy had 490 soldiers killed, wounded or captured and 14 bridges and culverts destroyed or blown up.

In Quang Tri and Thua Thien provinces, between Aug. 28 and Sept. 13, 4,000 enemy troops, including 2,700 G.I.s, were wiped out, 130 military vehicles destroyed or set afire and 85 aircraft destroyed or damaged.

U.S. tanks destroyed by L.A.F.

CON TIEN and GIO LINH: GRAVEYARDS FOR THE G.I.s

ENTERING the 1967 spring-summer period the armed forces and people of Quang Tri-Thua Thien closely co-ordinated their actions with other theatres and dealt thunder blows at the enemy. Though switching over to the defensive, the latter could not avoid annihilation.

Hardly had the Khe Sanh battle come to a close on May 5 with 1,800 U.S. and puppet troops knocked down when the L.A.F. attacked Con Tien, Doc Mieu and Dong Ha on May 7, wiping out 1,150 more G.I.s. The U.S. forces who had recklessly intruded into the southern part of the Demilitarized Zone on May 18 met with instant punishment. In 4 days only they had 2,000 officers and men killed and wounded, while in the engagement at Dong Ha on the night of May 17 the L.A.F. struck at U.S. Marine Division 3, and inflicted 1,000 casualties on it.

Following up their successes the L.A.F. lured the Yankees to Gio An and wiped out 1,320 men in 5 days beginning July 2. From then onwards, their artillery had been shelling his positions at Con Tien, Doc Mieu, Gio Linh and other places, and not a single unit could escape their blows once out of its base, for instance the annihilation of 300 men of Battalion 2, U.S. Marine Regiment 9, on July 29 moving from Con Tien to Cam Son, or the artillery shelling of Dong Ha, Gio Linh and Doc Mieu on the night of August 28, which caused 360 fresh

casualties among the enemy. Commenting on one of these shelling *AFP* correspondent Bob Willard had this to say:

"...When we emerged five minutes later, the 100 metres between us and the command bunker looked like 1,000. And when we ran for it and sank knee deep into the mud, it was like living a nightmare."

"...Just a few metres beyond that perimeter is 'Indian country,' from where 'Charlie' (name given to the L.A.F. by the G.I.s—*Ed.*) blasts anything and anybody in the camp with every weapon in his arsenal."

"One fuz-hecked corporal attached to the command post admitted frankly 'I'm going crazy'..."

In this distressed situation the aggressor had to pay a very high price for their adventurous actions. Penetrating into Bai Son south of Con Tien he had 300 G.I.s killed and injured, and 12 tanks destroyed (Sept. 7). At Ho Khe also south of Con Tien, another 500 were knocked out along with 10 tanks and armoured vehicles destroyed (Sept. 10). The badly mauled Americans found themselves isolated at Con Tien where on the night of September 20 and the following day the L.A.F. wiped out 300 G.I.s and 26 tanks. Between Sept. 22 and 26, the L.A.F. resumed the shelling of Con Tien and the surrounding positions,

putting out of action 600 G.I.s. Meanwhile, in order to break through the L.A.F. encirclement the Yankees attempted to press towards the coastal area, south of Gio Linh district, sandwiched between Highway 1 and the sea. In three days (Sept. 22-24), however, 300 U.S. and puppet troops were wiped out.

On the other hand, the fighting on Highway 9 after the winter of 1966 and spring of 1967 has brought out the fact that the L.A.F. continue to take the offensive. The longer they fight the better off they are in the camp, every victory into increasingly uncomfortable corner.

Fighting in the Con Tien-Gio Linh area also bespeaks the ability to carry out concerted actions of all the three Armed Forces (guerrillas, regional troops and regular army).

Furthermore, the L.A.F. keep the enemy under a constant heavy artillery fire at the very time when, ironically enough, he vociferously boasts of his modern weapons, such as long-range ultra-rapid 175mm cannons and 30-ton load B-52 bombers.

The operations north of Highway 9 are most vivid illustrations of the fact that after the winter of 1966 and after the spring of 1967 the U.S. forces, and their "counter-offensive" capacity, had to fall back to the defensive and were unable to ward off defeats.